

CITY SG – July 5th, 2026

Due to summer scheduling, these activities can be done in small groups or in one large group.

Bible Story: The Story of the Farmer • *Matthew 13:1-23*

Bottom Line: God's kingdom grows when you hear and do what He says.

Monthly Memory Verse: *God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit.* • Romans 14:17 NIV

PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

What You Need: Fourth of July activity sheet

What You Do:

- Great each kid by name and with a high five as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Set out the 4th of July fun sheets
- Ask kids what they did for the 4th of July holiday yesterday while they complete the activity sheets.

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. What Kind of Soil Are You?

Application Activity

What You Need: "What Kind of Soil Are You?" Activity Page (1 set per bin on cardstock)

What You Do:

- Place the four pictures in the middle of your group
- Review what each picture means from the Bible Story.
- Explain that you will read a short sentence, and they need to slap the picture that matches the "heart" in the story.
- Read the following simple scenarios:
 - "Jayden isn't listening to his mom." (*Hard path*)
 - "June shares her toy with a friend." (*Good soil*)
 - "Zoe starts to clean her room, but then stops to play." (*Rocky soil*)
 - "Amari gives his dad a big hug." (*Good soil*)
 - "Carson is distracted by worries instead of relying on God to help." (*Thorny soil*)
 - "Luke is honest when it would be easier to lie." (*Good soil*)
- After each one, briefly and simply explain why it matches.
- End by asking: "Which soil do we WANT to be? Slap the picture of the soil we want to be!" (Have everyone slap the "good soil" picture!)

2. Memory Verse Motions

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse to the group.
 - *God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit.* • Romans 14:17 NIV
- Repeat the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Say, "This verse reminds us what God's kingdom is all about: doing what is right. God, the King of the kingdom, is loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, good, faithful, gentle, and He has self-control. As you stay close to Him, He will grow His good fruit in you, and His kingdom will grow."
- Divide the kids into 3 groups
- Assign each group a sentence from the verse
****You can also do this as a whole group if you prefer***
 - *"God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking."*
 - *"It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy"*
 - *"All this comes through the Holy Spirit."*
- Give each group time to come up with motions to their part of the verse.
- Have each group teach everyone their motions.
- Put all of the motions together to practice the verse as a group.

3. Fourth of July Bingo

What You Need: Bingo card (one per child), bingo calling cards, bingo chips, prizes

What You Do:

- Pass out cards and beans.
- Remind Kids that yesterday we celebrated Independence Day, the Fourth of July. To celebrate we will play a game of Fourth of July Bingo!
- Play as many games as time allows.
- Let each winner choose a bracelet for a prize.
- After the game, give each child who did not win a bracelet.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*”
- “Dear God, thank You for loving us and teaching us what’s right. Please help our hearts be like the good soil, ready to listen to You. Help us to hear You and do what You say. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, remind the kids that **God’s kingdom grows when you hear and do what He says.**